



CATALOGUE NO. 1307.1

EMBARGOED UNTIL 11.30 A.M. 31 JANUARY 1996

ECONOMIC INDICATORS, NEW SOUTH WALES JANUARY 1996

MAIN FEATURES

EMPLOYMENT

The seasonally adjusted number of employed persons in NSW was 2 808 900 in December 1995, a fall of 0.1% on the previous month. Nationally, there was a rise of 0.1% in employment over the same period.

UNEMPLOYMENT

The seasonally adjusted number of unemployed persons in NSW was 217 000 in December 1995, a fall of 11.5% on the previous month and a fall of 16.2% over the previous year. The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate in December 1995 was 7.2% in NSW and 8.1% nationally.

NEW MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATIONS

The seasonally adjusted figure for new motor vehicle registrations in NSW decreased by 13.3% from 18 094 in October 1995 to 16 395 in November 1995.

TOURISM

The number of guest nights for licensed hotels, motels etc. with facilities in NSW for the September Quarter 1995 was 5 652 000, representing an increase of 12.2% on the previous quarter. This compares with a national increase of 11.6% over the same period.

FINANCE

The value of housing finance commitments for owner occupation in NSW in November 1995 increased by 12.7% from the previous month and was 3.6% higher than in November 1994.

NOTES

This publication provides information on a wide range of economic indicators which are the latest available at the time of publication. In a number of cases, figures appearing in this summary are preliminary and are subject to revision in subsequent issues.

For detailed explanatory notes and definitions for the items shown in this publication, readers are referred to the specific ABS publications.

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Gregory W. Bray
Deputy Commonwealth Statistician

INQUIRIES:

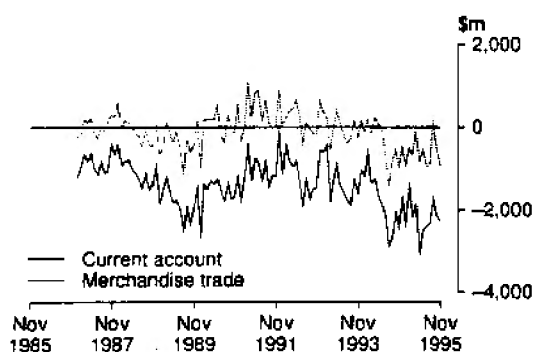
- for further information about statistics in this publication and the availability of related unpublished statistics, contact Bill Markham on Sydney (02) 268 4376 or any ABS office.
 - for information about other ABS statistics and services please contact Information Services on Sydney (02) 268 4611 or any ABS office.
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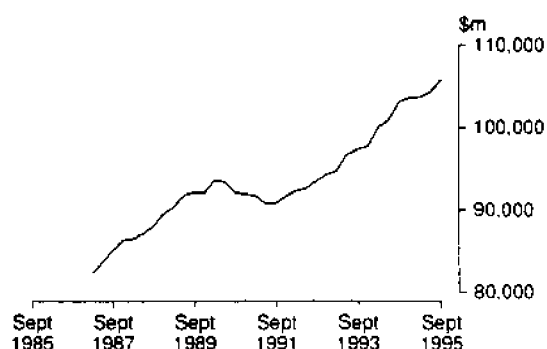
NATIONAL ECONOMY

Indicator	Unit	Latest period	Change over prior period	Change over year			
National Accounts percentage change, average 1989-90 prices, (seasonally adjusted)—							
Gross non-farm product	%	Sept. qtr 95	0.9	2.3			
Gross domestic product	%	Sept. qtr 95	1.4	2.6			
Figures for preceding periods							
Indicator	Unit	Latest period	Latest figure	One period ago	Two periods ago	Three periods ago	Figure one year ago
Balance of payments—							
Merchandise exports	\$m	Nov. 95	5 924	6 249	6 222	6 058	5 714
Merchandise imports	\$m	Nov. 95	-6 838	-6 704	-6 119	-6 955	-6 683
Balance on merchandise trade	\$m	Nov. 95	-914	-455	103	-897	-969
Balance on goods and services	\$m	Nov. 95	-887	-587	-292	-1 056	-1 000
Balance on current account	\$m	Nov. 95	-2 297	-2 107	-1 693	-2 309	-2 456
Balance on current account (seasonally adjusted)	\$m	Nov. 95	-1 866	-1 682	-1 452	-1 422	-2 208
Terms of trade for goods and services—							
Index (seasonally adjusted) 1989-90 = 100		Sept. qtr 95	94.2	93.2	92.4	91.5	89.2
Exchange Rates at end of period—							
\$US/\$A		Nov. 95	0.7469	0.7566	0.7550	0.7524	0.7674
Trade weighted index of value \$A	May 1970 = 100	Nov. 95	53.8	54.3	53.8	53.9	55.5
Interest Rates—							
Prime rate (Source: Reserve Bank)	%	Dec. 95	10.65-10.75	10.65-10.75	10.65-10.75	10.65-10.75	9.75-10.75

**BALANCE OF PAYMENTS
AUSTRALIA
(Monthly)**



**GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT, AUSTRALIA
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED
(Average 1989-1990 prices, quarterly)**

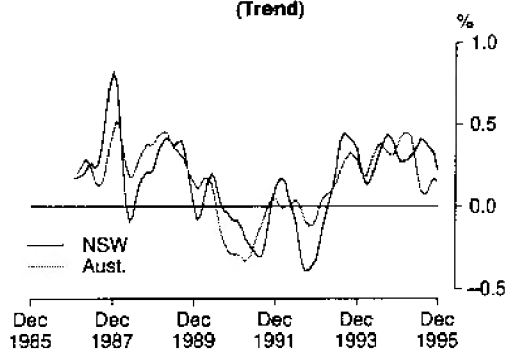


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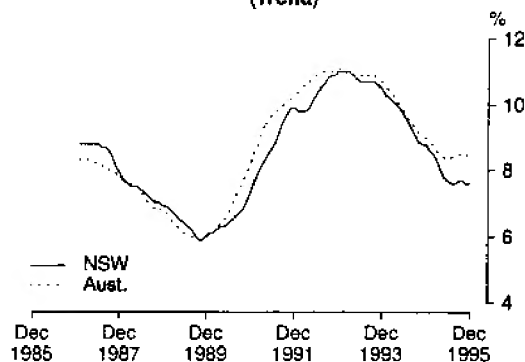
NEW SOUTH WALES IN RELATION TO OTHER STATES AND AUSTRALIA

Indicator	Latest period	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	Aust.
		%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)	Dec. 95	7.2	8.3	9.3	9.0	7.6	10.3	8.1
Percentage change from previous year—								
Employed persons	Dec. 95	3.9	3.8	3.8	2.6	1.1	3.6	3.4
Consumer price index: all groups	Sept. qtr 95	5.7	4.8	4.8	4.5	5.0	4.5	5.1
Average weekly employee earnings:								
full-time adult ordinary time (trend estimates)	Aug. 95	6.5	4.3	4.7	2.6	6.1	2.0	5.1
Retail turnover (trend estimates)	Nov. 95	9.6	5.6	5.7	11.2	8.0	4.7	7.8
New motor vehicle registrations	Nov. 95	-10.7	3.7	-14.7	0.5	-2.0	-33.4	-6.3
Dwelling units approved	Nov. 95	-17.5	-32.7	-41.7	-50.0	-35.9	-27.0	-30.5
Value of non-residential building approved	Nov. 95	29.8	22.6	52.0	9.3	-19.6	-40.1	21.8
Value of all buildings approved	Nov. 95	3.3	-8.5	-9.5	-28.8	-23.9	-23.5	-7.1
Value of engineering construction work done	Sept. qtr 95	30.9	-7.4	-7.0	-9.6	49.8	19.1	11.1
Room occupancy rate in licensed hotels and motels etc.	Sept. qtr 95	5.2	8.7	-2.3	3.3	1.2	-3.2	2.6
Actual private new capital expenditure	June qtr 95	10.4	20.0	33.6	24.2	13.5	9.7	15.3

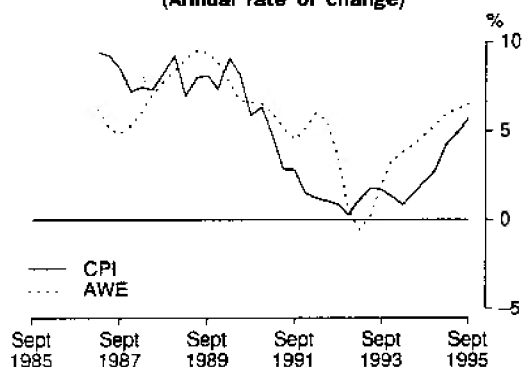
MONTHLY CHANGE IN NUMBER OF PERSONS EMPLOYED
(Trend)



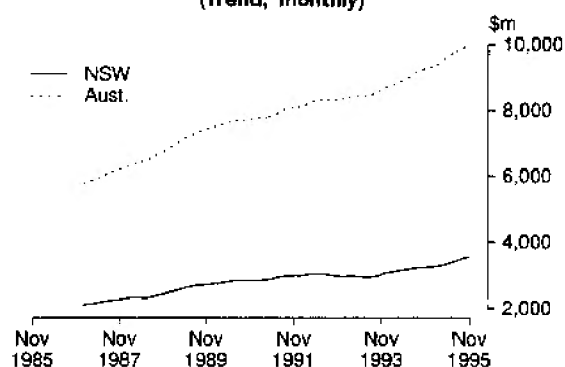
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE
(Trend)



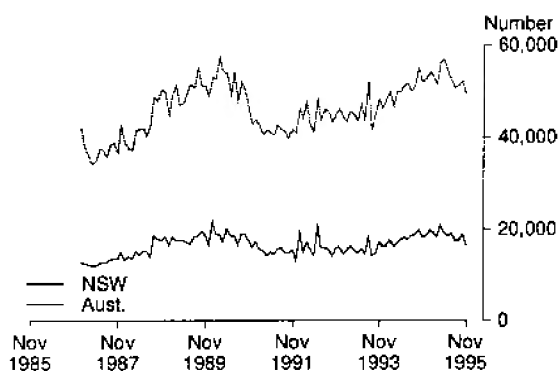
PRICES AND EARNINGS, NSW
(Annual rate of change)



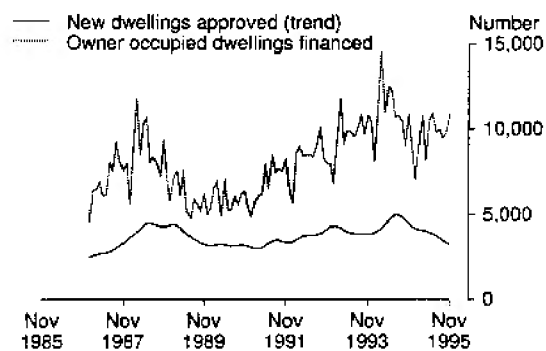
RETAIL TURNOVER
(Trend, monthly)



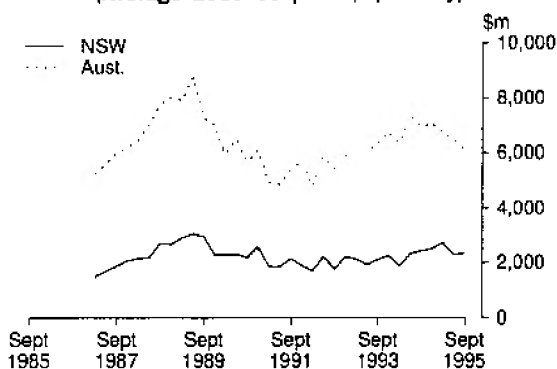
NEW MOTOR VEHICLES REGISTERED
(Monthly)



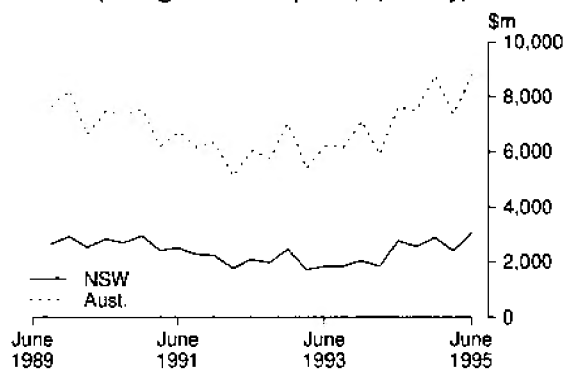
NEW DWELLINGS APPROVED AND HOUSING FINANCE COMMITMENTS, NSW
(monthly)



VALUE OF ALL BUILDINGS COMMENCED
(Average 1989-90 prices, quarterly)



PRIVATE NEW CAPITAL EXPENDITURE
(Average 1989-90 prices, quarterly)



Indicator	Unit	Latest period	New South Wales			Australia		
			Latest figure	Change from prior period	Change from same period prior year	Latest figure	Change from prior period	Change from same period prior year
				%	%		%	%
Population								
Estimated resident population	'000s	June qtr 95	6 115	0.29	1.09	18 054	0.30	1.21
Civilian population aged 15 years and over	'000s	Dec. 95	4 826	0.10	1.22	14 222	0.12	1.45
Labour Force								
Employed persons—full-time (original series)	'000s	Dec. 95	2 185	1.9	3.6	6 378	1.9	3.2
—total (original series)	'000s	Dec. 95	2 832	0.7	3.9	8 431	1.2	3.4
—total (seasonally adjusted)	'000s	Dec. 95	2 809	-0.1	3.9	8 341	0.1	3.4
Unemployed persons—(original series)	'000s	Dec. 95	225	-1.4	-16.1	749	1.6	-7.3
—(seasonally adjusted)	'000s	Dec. 95	217	-11.5	-16.2	731	-6.7	-7.4
Labour force (seasonally adjusted)	'000s	Dec. 95	3 026	-1.0	2.1	9 073	-0.5	2.4
Participation rate (seasonally adjusted)	%	Dec. 95	62.7	-1.1	0.9	63.8	-0.6	1.0
Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)	%	Dec. 95	7.2	-10.6	-18.0	8.1	-6.2	-9.6
Job vacancies	'000s	Nov. 95	25	-20.6	-13.2	56	-9.6	-15.1
Weekly paid overtime per employee (a)	hours	Nov. 95	7.0	0.7	-5.9	6.9	1.4	-8.1
Average Weekly Employee Earnings								
Full-time adult ordinary time earnings (trend estimates) \$		Aug. 95	686.00	1.8	6.5	654.20	1.3	5.1
All employees total earnings (trend estimates) \$		Aug. 95	579.20	0.9	3.7	551.30	0.6	2.4
Industrial Disputes —Working days lost	'000s	Sept. 95	6.9	-48.1	-20.7	40.1	-7.4	39.7
Consumer Price Index , All Groups 1989-90=100		Sept. qtr 95	117.3	1.6	5.7	117.6	1.2	5.1
Retail Turnover (trend estimates) \$m		Nov. 95	3 565	0.7	9.6	9 980	0.3	7.8
New Motor Vehicle Registrations (seasonally adjusted) No.		Nov. 95	16 395	-13.3	-10.7	49 298	-5.4	-5.2
Passenger vehicles (seasonally adjusted) No.		Nov. 95	13 899	-14.7	-10.0	41 573	-5.1	-2.8
Other motor vehicles (excl. motor cycles) (seas. adj.) No.		Nov. 95	2 496	-4.6	-14.5	7 724	-7.2	-16.2
Production								
Clay bricks (seasonally adjusted) (b)	million	Nov. 95	52.6	-12.2	-12.6	122	-6.7	-21.8
Electricity (seasonally adjusted)	million kWh	Nov. 95	5 257	0.2	4.8	13 761	-1.1	0.0
Gas (seasonally adjusted) (b)	terajoules	Nov. 95	(c)	(c)	(c)	56 241	4.8	5.0
Overseas Trade								
Imports \$m		Dec. 95	2 787	-12.1	6.6	6 167	-8.5	5.7
Exports, Australian produce \$m		Nov. 95	1 285	-2.8	-4.6	5 668	-4.1	2.9
Tourism								
Overseas visitor short-term arrivals	'000s	Oct. 95	144	21.3	12.6	321	19.4	6.3
Resident overseas short-term departures	'000s	Oct. 95	76	-26.6	2.9	194	-23.8	5.3
Licensed hotels, motels etc. with facilities—								
Guest nights	'000s	Sept. qtr 95	5 652	12.2	5.1	16 280	11.6	3.0
Room occupancy rate	%	Sept. qtr 95	60.2	6.4	5.2	59.9	6.8	2.6
Building								
Approvals—								
Dwelling units (seasonally adjusted) No.		Nov. 95	3 329	-4.4	-16.4	10 386	3.5	-30.0
Value of new residential building (seasonally adj.) \$m		Nov. 95	374	-0.7	-8.4	1 024	3.6	-21.8
Value of non-residential building \$m		Nov. 95	310	-28.2	29.8	890	-23.5	21.8
Value of all building \$m		Nov. 95	812	-9.4	3.3	2 184	-8.0	-7.1
Commencements—								
New dwelling units No.		Sept. qtr 95	10 876	-10.6	-26.2	33 296	-7.8	-32.5
Value of new residential buildings (d) \$m		Sept. qtr 95	1 084	-10.0	-25.4	3 002	-10.6	-31.4
Value of non-residential building (d) \$m		Sept. qtr 95	1 019	21.2	44.6	2 546	-1.0	28.2
Value of all building (d) \$m		Sept. qtr 95	2 344	2.6	-4.0	6 090	-6.1	-12.4
Value of work done in period (d) \$m		Sept. qtr 95	2 559	1.0	10.2	6 911	0.0	-2.4
Engineering Construction								
Private contractors—								
Value of work commenced \$m		Sept. qtr 95	539	26.5	-11.4	2 001	26.0	11.8
Value of work done \$m		Sept. qtr 95	767	33.1	43.3	1 879	10.2	8.9
Value of work yet to be done \$m		Sept. qtr 95	1 248	-11.7	27.2	3 524	-3.1	18.7
Value of work done by public sector \$m		Sept. qtr 95	514	-38.1	15.8	1 433	-29.1	14.3
Finance								
Housing finance for owner occupation—secured commitments to individuals by significant lenders \$m		Nov. 95	1 540	12.7	3.6	4 219	8.0	1.5
Personal finance commitments—significant lenders \$m		Oct. 95	988	18.5	41.7	2 802	13.1	32.7
Commercial finance commitments—significant lenders \$m		Oct. 95	4 494	-14.7	48.2	9 588	-11.3	42.7
Savings balances at end of month—								
All banks (e) (Source: Reserve Bank) \$m		Nov. 95	122 722	0.8	(f)	272 413	0.8	9.3
Building societies \$m		Nov. 95	3 557	0.7	10.7	11 251	0.9	-2.9
Credit unions \$m		Nov. 95	5 856	1.6	18.3	13 195	1.5	16.2
Actual New Fixed Capital Expenditure (g) \$m		June qtr 95	3 255	27.3	10.4	9 361	20.0	15.3
New buildings and structures \$m		June qtr 95	609	3.6	-2.3	2 367	9.5	11.9
Equipment, plant and machinery \$m		June qtr 95	2 646	34.3	13.7	6 994	24.0	16.5

(a) Average weekly overtime hours for those employees who were paid for overtime. (b) Includes Australian Capital Territory. (c) Not available for publication but included in totals where applicable. (d) Average of 1989-90 prices. (e) Average of weekly deposit balances. (f) Not available due to revisions only being done nationally. (g) By private enterprises.

